

In the matter of WT Docket No. 01-309

As a deaf consumer who uses Cochlear Implant technology to enable access to cellular communication, it is CRITICAL that I have the ability to “try” cellular phone models before making a purchase! I have discovered that not all cell phones are compatible with the “telecoil” feature built into my implant processor. In addition, not all of them allow me to hear my own voice when I speak into the cell phone while using the “telecoil” feature of the implant processor!

Hard of hearing baby boomers are going to be adversely affected as well as the growing numbers of cochlear implant recipients who rely on the “telecoil” of either the implant processor or hearing aid. We spend THOUSANDS of dollars to have this technology, thus it is so CRITICAL we have access to the ability to “try” phones before they are purchased. We have too many barriers to modern technology as it is! Please do not make life harder for us than it already is!!

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